

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 06309 180537Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

/060 W

----- 030241

P R 171716Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6816

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6309

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: PSOE PICKS UP THE PACE, AND IN AUGUST

REF: MADRID 6168

SUMMARY: PSOE HELD SUCCESSFUL, GOVT-AUTHORIZED MASS RALLY IN ASTURIAS AND IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING WEEK-LONG SERIES OF SEMINARS OUTSIDE OF MADRID. THESE ACTIVITIES, WHICH HAVE BEEN HIGHLY PUBLICIZED, CLEARLY INDICATE THAT THE PARTY'S EFFORTS ARE PICKING UP MOMENTUM IN ANTICIPATION OF FULL-FLEDGED RENEWAL OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN SEPTEMBER THE PARTY CONGRESS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER, AND NEXT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 06309 180537Z

YEAR'S EXPECTED ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PSOE, ON AUGUST 15, HELD A MASS RALLY IN GIJON, ASTURIAS, THE FIRST SUCH SOCIALIST GATHERING IN THE PROVINCE SINCE THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE RALLY, WHICH REPORTEDLY WAS ATTENDED BY SOME 6,000 ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORTERS, WAS A SPEECH BY PARTY SECGEN FELIPE GONZALEZ WHO, INTER ALIA, REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED THE PSOE AS A "DEMOCRATIC, MARXIST, FEDERAL, BOTH A MASS AND A WORKING-CLASS PARTY WHOSE ULTIMATE GOAL IS THE ACCESSION TO POLITICAL POWER THROUGH POPULAR ELECTIONS." (WORKING CLASS WAS DEFINED IN A WAY THAT SEEMED TO INCLUDE ALMOST EVERYONE.)

2. CONCERNING THE PARTY'S IDEOLOGICAL CALLING, GONZALEZ STATED THAT MARXISM WAS NOT SEEN BY THE PSOE AS A "DOGMAT OR RELIGION," BUT A METHOD FOR CARRYING OUT SOCIAL CHANGE, AND HE ADDED THAT THE PSOE DID NOT REQUIRE-- AND WOULD NOT EXPECT-- "PROFESSIONS OF MARXIST FAITH", FROM THOSE WHO ASPIRED TO JOIN, ONLY THEIR AGREEMENT WITH THE PARTY'S OBJECTIVES. (A REITERATION OF THE THEME HE EXPRESSED IN AN EARLIER INTERVIEW THAT SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ARE WELCOME IN THE PSOE.)

3. ON JULY 16 IN EL ESCORIAL, ABOUT FORTY MILES FROM MADRID, GONZALEZ KICKED OFF A WEEK-LONG SERIES OF SEMINARS FOR OVER 100 PSOE CADRE MEMBERS WITH A SIMILAR EXPOSITION OF THE PARTY'S GENERAL ORIENTATION, FOLLOWED BY SOME COMMENTS ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION. IN ADDITION TO REITERATING THE CHARACTERIZATION OF THE PARTY WHICH HE HAD MADE IN GIJON, GONZALEZ ALSO MADE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS:

4. NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVT. THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION ACCEPTS THE NECESSITY OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVT, BUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE SYSTEM, NOT COSMETIC CHANGES. "WE DO NOT KNOW IF THE GOVT IS TALKING ABOUT THE SAME KIND OF DEMOCRACY THAT WE SUPPORT. IT IS POSSIBLE, IN THIS REGARD, THAT THE SAME WORDS HAVE DIFFERENT MEANINGS FOR DIFFERENT PEOPLE." HE ADDED THAT THE PSOE WOULD NOT ACCEPT A POLITICAL CALENDAR

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 06309 180537Z

"IMPOSED" BY THE GOVT, BUT ONLY ONE NEGOTIATED WITH THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION.

5. COMPOSITION OF A TRANSITION GOVT. ONE MUST CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY WHETHER IT WOULD BE WISE TO PARTICIPATED IN A GOVT THAT HAS NOT BEEN LEGITIMIZED BY ELECTIONS AND WHICH IS CONFRONTED BY A SERIOUS ECONOMIC CRISIS. GONZALEZ THEN EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS

CONCERNING THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVT WHICH WILL SUPERVISE ELECTIONS, INCLUDING THE PCE'S PROPOSAL FOR A "PROVISIONAL GOVT" AND TIerno GALVAN'S IDEA OF A "GOVT OF NATIONAL CONCENTRATION." (COMMENT: THIS IS VERY MUCH IN LINE WITH GONZALEZ' PRIVATE STATEMENTS TO US, TO THE EFFECT THAT HE IS CHARY OF PARTICIPATING IN ANY TRANSITIONAL GOVT AND THAT HE IS MUCH MORE INTERESTED IN RESULTS THAN IN COMPETING FORMULAS FOR DIVIDING UP MINISTRIES IN A TRANSITIONAL GOVT.)

6. PARTY STRUCTURE AND PROCESS. GONZALEZ STATED THAT THE PSOE'S "FEDERAL AND AUTONOMOUS" STRUCTURE REFLECTS THE PARTY'S SUPPORT FOR A FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM WHICH WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH "THE CHARACTERISTICS OF SPAIN'S VARIOUS NATIONALITIES, PEOPLES AND REGIONS." HE ALSO PLACED SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE PSOE'S INTERNAL DEMOCRACY, TO THE POINT OF SAYING THAT THE PARTY LEADERSHIP CARRIES OUT THE WILL OF ITS BIENNIAL CONGRESSES "WITHOUT INTERPRETATION" BECAUSE THE PSOE IS NOT A "VANGUARDIST OR ELITIST PARTY." (COMMENT: THIS IS GONZALEZ' PERENNIAL BARB AT THE PCE.)
STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID06309
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760316-0594
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760847/aaaaboll.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 6168
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PSOE PICKS UP THE PACE, AND IN AUGUST
TAGS: PINT, SP, PSOE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006